



STATE OF COLORADO

STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

(303) 866-2051
FAX (303) 866-2060

J. DAVID BARBA, C.P.A.
State Auditor

Legislative Services Building
200 East 14th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80203-2211

October 31, 1997

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance and on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

Members of the Legislative Audit Committee:

We have audited the financial statements of the State of Colorado, as of and for the year ended June 30, 1997, and have issued our report thereon dated October 31, 1997. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in the *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.


Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the State of Colorado's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance that are required to be reported under *Governmental Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the State of Colorado's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted certain matters involving internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be reportable conditions. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the State of Colorado's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. Reportable conditions are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as Recommendation Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16.

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose the reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above is a material weakness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Daniel Barker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.